

VZCZCXYZ0002
OO RUEHWEB

DE RUEHC #1632 2452020
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
O 022001Z SEP 09
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE 0000
RUEHK/AMEMBASSY DHAKA IMMEDIATE 0000
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE 0000
RUEHUJA/AMEMBASSY ABUJA IMMEDIATE 0000
RUEHKT/AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU IMMEDIATE 0000
RUEHLGB/AMEMBASSY KIGALI IMMEDIATE 0000
RUEHAM/AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE 0000
RUEHAR/AMEMBASSY ACCRA IMMEDIATE 0000
RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE 0000
RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE 0000
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 0000
INFO UN SECURITY COUNCIL COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 091632

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: PREL UNGA KPKO

SUBJECT: DEMARCHE REQUEST: INVITATION TO MEETING WITH
PRESIDENT OBAMA DURING UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

¶1. (SBU) This is an urgent action request. Ambassadors are requested to deliver President Obama's invitation (paragraph 4) to Heads of State or Heads of Government of action addressee posts, representing the top contributors of troops and police contingents to UN peacekeeping operations. USUN is also requested to send a copy of the invitation to the relevant Permanent Missions to the UN. The meeting will be held on September 23, from 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m. Invitations should be delivered at the highest appropriate level and it should be stressed that this meeting will be conducted at the Head of State/Head of Government level only. No signed original will be forthcoming. Posts are requested to stress to their interlocutors that the goal is a substantive and interactive discussion rather than consecutive formal remarks. Since time is limited, Heads of State/Government should limit each of their interventions to no more than two minutes; Paragraphs 2 and 3 contain background information for Embassies. Embassies are requested to confirm response and level of participation at the earliest opportunity.

¶2. FOR EMBASSY NEW DELHI: We understand that India is not currently planning to be represented at the UNGA at the Head of State or Head of Government level, but will be attending the G-20 on September 24. Indian participation in this peacekeeping event is a high priority for the White House, which deeply appreciates India's longstanding contributions in the field; Embassy is requested to express that wish in the clearest possible terms, as the event will benefit significantly from India's presence.

¶3. (SBU) Background:

The attached invitation is to an event that will underscore the commitment of the United States to support strong, effective UN peacekeeping. The meeting will provide an opportunity for the President to demonstrate that the United States values the contribution and sacrifices of troop- and police-contributing countries (TCCs/PCCs) and that we understand their concerns. We hope that this outreach will encourage TCC/PCC to continue to participate in the more difficult missions, increase their willingness to work with the U.S. on continuing efforts to strengthen and improve peacekeeping operations, and send a positive political signal to potential new contributors of U.S. interest in peacekeeping operations. TCCs/PCCs argue that their contributions are often taken for granted, including when the Security Council renews mandates for UN operations; and while large contributors such as the U.S.

fund the missions (the U.S. is assessed over 25 percent of the cost of UN peacekeeping), the TCCs/PCCs face the risks and challenges in the field. Over the past six months the Security Council has held a series of meetings to discuss how to make the best decisions on new and renewed mandates for UN peacekeeping operations, including how to substantially improve dialogue among the TCCs/PCCs, the Security Council and the Secretariat. This meeting would demonstrate the United States' seriousness in following through on that commitment. President Obama intends to make brief opening remarks, and then moderate an interactive discussion on the following two questions: What are the biggest challenges you face, as a TCC/PCC to UN operations, and what can the United Nations and the United States do to help? What peacekeeping reforms are most urgently required on which the United States and TCCs/PCCs can work together at the UN? No prepared remarks are expected. We ask that each of the interventions be limited to two minutes. UN missions of invited heads of state/government will be advised separately in New York by the U.S. Mission to the United Nations on location of meeting and other logistical details.

¶4. (SBU) To accommodate the short time available for the meeting, this invitation is being extended only to those countries which comprise the top ten contributors of military and/or police personnel to UN peacekeeping operations, as of July 31, 2009 (the most recent date for official UN deployment statistics).

The following, for Embassy information only, is a list of the ten countries, in rank order as of July 31, 2009, showing the UN missions to which they are deployed, plus the total number of uniformed personnel they contribute. The UN lists military personnel as either "military observers" (unarmed, often monitoring aspects of a peace agreement) or "troops."

"Troops" includes military personnel in all other categories, including, for example, infantry, staff officers, medical personnel, and drivers. Missions vary in size, so posts should take "significant" to mean relative to the overall size of the mission. The UN's Department of Peacekeeping Operations and Department of Political Affairs also manage several largely civilian "political" and "integrated" missions that have small military or police components.

Pakistan: Political mission in Burundi (BINUB); UN peacekeeping missions in Chad/Central African Republic (MINURCAT), Western Sahara (MINURSO), Haiti (MINUSTAH), Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUC), Darfur (UNAMID), Kosovo (UNMIK), Liberia (UNMIL), southern Sudan (UNMIS), Timor Leste (UNMIT) and Cote d'Ivoire (UNOCI). Total: 10,620. Pakistan is a significant contributor of police in Haiti (247), Darfur (138), Timor Leste (168) and Cote d'Ivoire (125). It is a significant troop contributor in Congo (3,590), Darfur (512), Liberia (3,064), Southern Sudan (1,477), and Cote d'Ivoire (1,137). A Pakistani is the UNMIS Special Representative of the Secretary-General (Ambassador equivalent).

Bangladesh: Political missions in Afghanistan (UNAMA) and Burundi (BINUB); UN peacekeeping missions in Chad/Central African Republic (MINURCAT), Western Sahara (MINURSO), Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUC), Darfur (UNAMID), Liberia (UNMIL), Southern Sudan (UNMIS), Timor Leste (UNMIT) and Cote d'Ivoire (UNOCI). Total: 9,342.

Bangladesh is a significant contributor of police in Congo (250), Darfur (636), Timor Leste (192) and Cote d'Ivoire (252). It is a significant troop contributor in Congo (1,332), Darfur (587), Liberia (2,338), Southern Sudan (1,545), and Cote d'Ivoire (2,082). A Bangladeshi is the UNMIL force commander (senior military position).

India: UN peacekeeping missions in Haiti (MINUSTAH), Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUC), Golan Heights (UNDOF), Cyprus (UNFICYP), Lebanon (UNIFIL), Liberia (UNMIL), Southern Sudan (UNMIS), Timor Leste (UNMIT) and Cote d'Ivoire (UNOCI). Total: 8,753. India is a significant contributor of police in Haiti (150), Congo (248), and Liberia (248). It is a significant troop

contributor in Congo (4,267), Golan Heights (194), Lebanon (894), and Southern Sudan (2,607). Indians hold leadership positions in MONUC as Police Commissioner (the senior police position) and UNMIT as Special Representative of the Secretary-General (Ambassador equivalent).

Nigeria: Political mission in Burundi (BINUB); UN peacekeeping missions in Chad/Central African Republic (MINURCAT), Western Sahara (MINURSO), Haiti (MINUSTAH), Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUC), Darfur (UNAMID), Liberia (UNMIL), Southern Sudan (UNMIS), Timor Leste (UNMIT) and Cote d'Ivoire (UNOCI). Total: 5,977. Nigeria is a significant contributor of police in Haiti (123), Darfur (538), and Timor Leste (52). It is a major troop contributor in Darfur (3,337) and Liberia (1,659). A Nigerian general has just completed a tour as UNAMID Force Commander (senior military position).

Nepal: Political missions in Afghanistan (UNAMA) and Iraq (UNAMI); UN peacekeeping missions in Chad/Central African Republic (MINURCAT), Haiti (MINUSTAH), Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUC), Darfur (UNAMID), Lebanon (UNIFIL), Liberia (UNMIL), Southern Sudan (UNMIS), Timor Leste (UNMIT), Cote d'Ivoire (UNOCI), and the Middle East (UNTSO). Total: 4,159. Nepal is a significant contributor of police in Haiti (172), Darfur (224), Liberia (248), and Timor Leste (75). It is a significant troop contributor in Haiti (1,076), Congo (1,330), and Lebanon (866). A Nepalese is the UNMIS Force Commander (senior military position).

Rwanda: UN peacekeeping missions in Chad/Central African Republic (MINURCAT), Haiti (MINUSTAH), Darfur (UNAMID), Liberia (UNMIL), Southern Sudan (UNMIS), and Cote d'Ivoire (UNOCI). Total: 3,608. Rwanda is a significant troop contributor in Darfur (3,236) and Southern Sudan (256). A Rwandan is the UNAMID Force Commander.

Jordan: Political missions in Afghanistan (UNAMA), Iraq (UNAMI) and Nepal (UNMIN); UN peacekeeping missions in Chad/Central African Republic (MINURCAT), Western Sahara (MINURSO), Haiti (MINUSTAH), Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUC), Darfur (UNAMID), Liberia (UNMIL), Southern Sudan (UNMIS), Timor Leste (UNMIT) and Cote d'Ivoire (UNOCI). Total: 3,248. Jordan is a significant contributor of police in Haiti (323), Darfur (146), Liberia (260), and Cote d'Ivoire (382). It is a significant troop contributor in Haiti (728) and Cote d'Ivoire (1,058), and provides a critical medical unit in Liberia (120). A Jordanian is Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General (DCM equivalent) in MINURCAT. Prince Zeid of Jordan, currently Ambassador in Washington and formerly Permanent Representative to the UN has been a key player in efforts to address problems with UN peacekeeping, first as head of a panel that made sweeping recommendations on steps to address sexual exploitation and abuse by UN peacekeepers, and currently an advisor to an independent study due out soon that will recommend how to operationalize peacekeeping mandates to protect civilians.

Ghana: Political missions in Afghanistan and Burundi (BINUB); UN peacekeeping missions in Chad/Central African Republic (MINURCAT), Western Sahara (MINURSO), Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUC), Darfur (UNAMID), Lebanon (UNIFIL), Kosovo (UNMIK), Liberia (UNMIL), Southern Sudan (UNMIS), and Cote d'Ivoire (UNOCI). Total: 3,160. Ghana is a significant contributor of police in Darfur (206). It is a significant troop contributor in Congo (462), Lebanon (874), Liberia (703), and Cote d'Ivoire (542). Ghanaians hold the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General positions (DCM equivalent) in UNAMID and UNMIL.

Egypt: Political mission in Nepal (UNMIN); UN peacekeeping missions in Chad/Central African Republic (MINURCAT), Western Sahara (MINURSO), Haiti (MINUSTAH), Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUC), Darfur (UNAMID), Liberia

(UNMIL), Southern Sudan (UNMIS), and Timor Leste (UNMIT). Total: 3,146. Egypt is a significant contributor of troops in Darfur (2,085) and Southern Sudan (817).

Italy: UN peacekeeping missions in Western Sahara (MINURSO), Darfur (UNAMID), Cyprus (UNFICYP), Lebanon (UNIFIL), Kosovo (UNMIK), Liberia (UNMIL), Timor Leste (UNMIT), Jammu & Kashmir (UNMOGIP), and the Middle East (UNTSO). Total: 2,701. Italy is a significant contributor of troops in Lebanon (2,673). The Special Representative of the Secretary-General (Ambassador) in UNMIK is Italian, as is the UNIFIL Force Commander (senior military representative).

15. (SBU) Begin invitation:

Dear Mr./Madam (Title of Head of State/Government),

I have the honor of hosting an unprecedented meeting of top troop and police contributors to United Nations peacekeeping operations. Your participation at this meeting, to be held on September 23 at UN Headquarters, would be greatly appreciated.

UN peacekeeping is one of the most important tools available to the international community to help prevent and resolve conflict and assist war-torn countries to make the transition to sustainable peace. The success of UN peacekeeping depends heavily on the troop and police contributions of countries such as yours. I hope you will permit me the opportunity to express appreciation for your country's contributions and sacrifice on September 23, from 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m., when I will host a Summit-level meeting of the United States and Heads of State or Government of the top contributors of troops and police to UN peacekeeping operations.

As a permanent member of the Security Council and the leading financial contributor, the United States has a deep interest in enhancing the effectiveness and efficiency of current and future UN peacekeeping operations. I know that your country does, too, as a top contributor of troops and police to those operations. We value the contributions you and your valiant uniformed personnel make to international peace and security, and the risks they take every day; their dedication enhances respect for peace and reduces suffering. We all have a stake in the outcome of such conflicts; the United States believes that renewed and strengthened cooperation between all the stakeholders, including members of the Security Council and the troop- and police-contributing countries, is the only way to respond to the ever-growing challenges of UN peacekeeping today.

This meeting is intended to spark a productive and continuing exchange of ideas among us, building on the dialogue that has been taking place in the Security Council, in the General Assembly, and with the UN Secretariat. I look forward to hearing your views on the most important ways to strengthen and improve UN peacekeeping on which our countries could work together at the United Nations.

President Barack Obama

End invitation.
CLINTON